

SPORAZUM MED
REPUBLIKO SLOVENIJO IN GUERNSEYJEM
O IZMENJAVI INFORMACIJ
V ZVEZI Z DAVČNIMI ZADEVAMI

KER želita Republika Slovenija in Guernsey (v nadalnjem besedilu: pogodbenika) pospešiti izmenjavo informacij v zvezi z davki in olajšati pogoje zanjo,

KER se priznava, da ima Guernsey pod pogoji iz pooblastila Združenega kraljestva Velika Britanija in Severna Irska pravico do pogajanja, sklepanja, izvajanja sporazuma in na podlagi pogojev iz tega sporazuma do odpovedi sporazuma o izmenjavi davčnih informacij z Republiko Slovenijo,

KER se je Guernsey 21. februarja 2002 politično zavezal načelom OECD o učinkoviti izmenjavi informacij,

STA SE pogodbenika dogovorila, da bosta sklenila ta sporazum, ki vsebuje samo njune obveznosti:

1. člen

NAMEN IN PODROČJE UPORABE SPORAZUMA

Pogodbenika prek pristojnih organov zagotavlja pomoč z izmenjavo informacij, ki so predvidoma pomembne za izvajanje in uveljavljanje domače zakonodaje pogodbenikov glede davkov iz tega sporazuma, vključno z informacijami, ki so predvidoma pomembne za določitev, odmero, uveljavitev ali pobiranje davkov pri osebah, ki so zavezane zanje oziroma za preiskavo davčnih zadev ali pregon kazenskih davčnih zadev takih oseb. Zaprošeni pogodbenik ni zavezan dati informacij, ki jih ne hranijo njegovi organi oziroma jih nimajo ali jih ne morejo pridobiti osebe, ki so pod njegovo ozemeljsko jurisdikcijo. Pravice in zaščitni ukrepi, ki jih osebam zagotavljajo zakoni ali upravna praksa zaprošenega pogodbenika, se uporabljajo, če brez razloga ne preprečujejo ali zavlačujejo učinkovite izmenjave informacij.

2. člen

DAVKI, ZA KATERE SE UPORABLJA SPORAZUM

1. Davki, na katere se nanaša ta sporazum, so:

- a) v Sloveniji:
 - (i) davek od dohodkov pravnih oseb,
 - (ii) dohodnina,
 - (iii) davek od dobička od odsvojitve izvedenih finančnih instrumentov,
 - (iv) davek od premoženja,
 - (v) davek na dediščine in darila;
- b) v Guernseyju:
 - (i) davek od dohodka,
 - (ii) davek od dobička iz stanovanj.

2. Sporazum se uporablja tudi za enake davke, ki se po dnevu podpisa sporazuma uvedejo poleg obstoječih davkov ali namesto njih, ali za vsebinsko podobne davke, če se tako dogovorita pogodbenika prek pristojnih organov. Poleg tega se seznam davkov, za katere se uporablja ta sporazum, lahko razširi ali spremeni s skupnim dogovorom pogodbenikov v obliki izmenjave pisem. Pristojni organ pogodbenika obvesti drugega o pomembnih spremembah zakonodaje, ki bi lahko vplivale na obveznosti tega pogodbenika po tem sporazumu.

3. člen

POMEN IZRAZOV

1. V tem sporazumu:

- a) izraz "Slovenija" pomeni Republiko Slovenijo, in kadar se uporablja v geografskem pomenu, ozemlje Slovenije in tista morska območja, na katerih lahko Slovenija izvaja svoje suverene pravice ali jurisdikcijo v skladu s svojo notranjo zakonodajo in mednarodnim pravom;
- b) izraz "Guernsey" pomeni Guernsey, Alderney in Herm skupaj s teritorialnim morjem teh otokov v skladu z mednarodnim pravom;
- c) izraz "kolektivni naložbeni sklad ali načrt" pomeni kateri koli način skupnega vlaganja ne glede na pravno obliko. Izraz "javni kolektivni naložbeni sklad ali načrt" pomeni kateri koli kolektivni naložbeni sklad ali načrt, če lahko kdor koli enote, delnice ali druge deleže v skladu ali načrtu neovirano kupuje, prodaja ali unovčuje. Enote, delnice ali druge deleže v skladu ali načrtu lahko "kdor koli" neovirano kupuje, prodaja ali unovčuje, če nakup, prodaja ali unovčitev ni implicitno ali eksplisitno na voljo le omejeni skupini vlagateljev;

- d) izraz "družba" pomeni katero koli korporacijo ali kateri koli subjekt, ki se za davčne namene obravnava kot korporacija;
- e) izraz "pristojni organ" pomeni:
 - (i) v Sloveniji Ministrstvo za finance Republike Slovenije ali njegovega pooblaščenega predstavnika,
 - (ii) v Guernseyju direktorja za davek od dohodka ali njegovega pooblaščenca,
- f) izraz "kazenska zakonodaja" pomeni vse kazenske določbe, ki se obravnavajo kot take po domačem pravu, ne glede na to, ali so vsebovane v davčni zakonodaji, kazenskem zakoniku ali drugih zakonih;
- g) izraz "kazenske davčne zadeve" pomeni davčne zadeve z naklepnim dejanjem pred začetkom veljavnosti tega sporazuma ali po njem, ki se preganjajo po kazenski zakonodaji pogodbenika prosilca;
- h) izraz "informacija" pomeni vsako dejstvo, izjavo, listino ali zapis v kakršni koli obliki;
- i) izraz "ukrepi za zbiranje informacij" pomeni zakonodajo in upravne ali sodne postopke, ki zaprošenemu pogodbeniku omogočajo pridobivanje in predložitev zaprošenih informacij;
- j) izraz "oseba" pomeni posameznika, družbo ali katero koli drugo telo, ki združuje več oseb;
- k) izraz "glavni razred delnic" pomeni razred ali razrede delnic, ki predstavljajo večino glasovalnih pravic in vrednosti družbe;
- l) izraz "javna družba" pomeni družbo, katere glavni razred delnic kotira na priznani borzi, če lahko kdor koli njene kotirajoče delnice neovirano kupuje ali prodaja. Delnice lahko "kdor koli" kupuje ali prodaja, če nakup ali prodaja delnic ni implicitno ali eksplisitno na voljo le omejeni skupini vlagateljev;
- m) izraz "priznana borza" pomeni borzo, o kateri sta se dogovorila pristojna organa pogodbenikov;
- n) izraz "zaprošeni pogodbenik" pomeni pogodbenika, ki je zaprošen, da zagotovi ali je zagotovil informacije ali pomoč kot odgovor na zaprosilo;
- o) izraz "pogodbenik prosilec" pomeni pogodbenika, ki predloži zaprosilo ali je prejel informacije ali pomoč od zaprošenega pogodbenika;
- p) izraz "davek" pomeni kateri koli davek, za katerega se uporablja ta sporazum.

2. Kadar pogodbenik uporabi sporazum, ima izraz, ki v njem ni opredeljen, razen če sobesedilo ne zahteva drugače, pomen, ki ga ima takrat po njegovem pravu, pri čemer pomen po veljavni davčni zakonodaji tega pogodbenika prevlada nad pomenom izraza po drugi zakonodaji tega pogodbenika.

4. člen

IZMENJAVA INFORMACIJ NA ZAPROSILO

1. Pристојни орган запрошенega pogodbenika na zaprosilo pogodbenika prosilca predloži informacije za namene iz 1. člena. Take informacije se izmenjajo ne glede na to, ali zaprošeni pogodbenik potrebuje take informacije za svoje davčne namene in ali bi se dejanje, o katerem teče preiskava, štelo za kaznivo dejanje po zakonodaji zaproшенega pogodbenika, če bi se pripetilo na ozemlju zaprošenega pogodbenika. Pристојни орган pogodbenika prosilca zaprosi za informacije v skladu s tem členom le takrat, ko jih ne more pridobiti kako drugače na lastnem ozemlju, razen kadar bi uporaba takih sredstev povzročila nesorazmerne težave.

2. Če informacije, ki jih ima пристојни орган запрошенega pogодбеника не zadoščajo in ne omogočajo izpolnitve zaprosila zanje, запрошени pogодбенik uporabi vse ustrezne ukrepe za zbiranje informacij, da запрошene informacije predloži pogодбенiku просилcu ne glede na to, da jih запрошени pogодбенik morda ne potrebuje za svoje davčne namene.

3. Pристојni organ запрошенega pogодбенika na posebno запросило пристојнega organa pogодбенika просилца предloži информације в складу с тем членом в обсегу, кој га омогоча домаћа законодавство, в облику изјав приč и оверјених копиј извирних записова.

4. Погодбеника затржава, да има някаква пристојна органа за намene из 1. члена споразума пристојност, да на запросило придобита и предложита:

- a) информације, којих хранijo банке, друге финанчне уstanove и катер кoli osebe, vključno s pooblaščenci in skrbniki, ki delujejo kot zastopniki ali fiduciarji;
- b)
 - (i) информације, који се nanašajo na zakonito и upravičeno lastništvo družb, partnerstev, fundacij и drugih oseb ter ob upoštevanju omejitev iz 2. члена катер кoli друге osebe v lastniški verigi, vključno z информацијами o delnicah, enotah и drugih deležih при kolektivnih naložbenih skladih ali načrtih;
 - (ii) при skrbniških skladih информације o ustanoviteljih, skrbnikih, zaščitnikih и управитељима;
 - (iii) при fundacijah информације o ustanoviteljih, članih sveta fundacije и управитељима.

5. Ta sporazum pogodbenikoma ne nalaga obveznosti za pridobitev ali predložitev informacij o lastništvu javnih družb ali javnih kolektivnih naložbenih skladov ali načrtov, razen če se te informacije lahko pridobijo brez nesorazmernih težav.

6. Zaprosilo za informacijo mora biti oblikovano čim natančneje in mora pisno določati:

- a) identiteto osebe, ki se zasliši ali preiskuje;
- b) obdobje, za katero se zaprosijo informacije;
- c) vrsto zaprošenih informacij in obliko, v kateri jih pogodbenik prosilec želi prejeti;
- d) davčni namen, za katerega se zaprosijo informacije;
- e) razloge za prepričanje, da so zaprošene informacije predvidoma pomembne za izvajanje in uveljavljanje davkov v pogodbeniku prosilcu v zvezi z osebo iz pododstavka a tega odstavka;
- f) razloge za prepričanje, da so zaprošene informacije v zaprošenem pogodbeniku ali jih ima ali bi jih lahko pridobila oseba pod jurisdikcijo zaprošenega pogodbenika;
- g) ime in naslov osebe, za katero se verjame, da ima ali bi lahko pridobila zaprošene informacije, če je znana;
- h) izjavo, da je zaprosilo skladno z zakonodajo in upravno prakso pogodbenika prosilca, da bi lahko, če bi bile zaprošene informacije pod jurisdikcijo pogodbenika prosilca, pristojni organ pogodbenika prosilca pridobil informacije po zakonodaji pogodbenika prosilca ali z običajno upravno prakso, in da je skladno s tem sporazumom;
- i) izjavo, da je pogodbenik prosilec na svojem ozemlju izkoristil vse načine za pridobitev informacij, razen tistih, ki bi povzročili nesorazmerne težave.

7. Pristojni organ zaprošenega pogodbenika pošlje pogodbeniku prosilcu zaprošene informacije, takoj ko je mogoče. Za zagotovitev takojšnjega odgovora pristojni organ zaprošenega pogodbenika:

- a) pisno potrdi prejem zaprosila pristojnemu organu pogodbenika prosilca ter ga obvesti o pomanjkljivostih zaprosila v 60 dneh od njegovega prejema,
- b) če pristojni organ zaprošenega pogodbenika ni mogel pridobiti in predložiti informacij v 90 dneh od prejema zaprosila, tudi zato ne, ker je pri zagotavljanju informacij naletel na ovire ali pa je zagotovitev zavrnit, o tem nemudoma obvesti pogodbenika prosilca in pojasni vzrok te nezmožnosti, vrsto ovir ali razloge za zavrnitev.

5. člen

DAVČNI PREGLEDI V TUJINI

1. Pogodbenik prosilec lahko, če to stori vnaprej in dovolj zgodaj, zaprosi zaprošenega pogodbenika, da dovoli vstop na svoje ozemlje predstavnikom pristojnega organa pogodbenika prosilca v obsegu, ki ga omogoča njegova domača zakonodaja, da opravijo pogovore s posamezniki in proučijo zapise s predhodnim pisnim soglasjem posameznikov ali drugih udeleženih oseb. Pristojni organ pogodbenika prosilca obvesti pristojni organ zaprošenega pogodbenika o času in kraju nameravanega srečanja z udeleženimi posamezniki.

2. Na zaprosilo pristojnega organa pogodbenika prosilca pristojni organ zaprošenega pogodbenika lahko dovoli predstavnikom pristojnega organa pogodbenika prosilca navzočnost pri davčnem pregledu na ozemlju zaprošenega pogodbenika.

3. Kadar se zaprosilu iz drugega odstavka ugodi, pristojni organ zaprošenega pogodbenika, ki vodi pregled, čim prej obvesti pristojni organ pogodbenika prosilca o času in kraju pregleda, organu ali uradniku, pooblaščenem za opravljanje pregleda, ter o postopkih in pogojih, ki jih zaprošeni pogodbenik zahteva za opravljanje pregleda. Zaprošeni pogodbenik, ki opravlja pregled, sprejme vse odločitve v zvezi z opravljanjem pregleda.

4. V tem členu se izraz "domača zakonodaja" nanaša na zakone ali instrumente, ki urejajo vstop na ozemlja pogodbenikov in izstop z njih.

6. člen

MOŽNOST ZA ZAVRNITEV ZAPROSILA

1. Pristojni organ zaprošenega pogodbenika lahko zavrne pomoč:

- a) kadar zaprosilo ni skladno s tem sporazumom,
- b) kadar pogodbenik prosilec na svojem ozemlju ni izkoristil vseh načinov za pridobitev informacij, razen tistih, ki bi povzročili nesorazmerne težave, ali
- c) kadar bi bilo razkritje zaprošenih informacij v nasprotju z javnim redom.

2. Ta sporazum ne nalaga zaprošenemu pogodbeniku, da predloži informacije, za katere velja privilegij zaupnosti ali kakršna koli trgovinska, poslovna, industrijska, komercialna ali poklicna skrivnost ali trgovinski postopek, pri čemer se informacije iz četrtega odstavka 4. člena samo zaradi tega dejstva ne bodo obravnavale kot taka skrivnost ali trgovinski postopek.

3. Zaprosilo za informacije se ne sme zavrniti zaradi nepriznavanja davčnega zahtevka, ki je razlog za zaprosilo.

4. Od zaprošenega pogodbenika se ne zahteva pridobitev ali predložitev informacij, ki jih, če bi bile zaprošene informacije pod jurisdikcijo pogodbenika prosilca, pristojni organ pogodbenika prosilca ne bi mogel pridobiti po svoji zakonodaji ali z običajno upravno prakso.

5. Zaprošeni pogodbenik lahko zavrne zaprosilo za informacije, kadar pogodbenik prosilec zaprosi zanje zaradi izvajanja ali uveljavljanja določbe svojega davčnega zakona oziroma zahteve povezane s tem, ki neenako obravnava državljana zaprošenega pogodbenika v primerjavi z državljanom pogodbenika prosilca v enakih okoliščinah.

7. člen

ZAUPNOST

1. Vse informacije, ki jih predložita in prejmeta pristojna organa pogodbenikov, so zaupne.

2. Take informacije se razkrijejo samo osebam ali organom (vključno s sodišči in upravnimi organi) za namene, navedene v 1. členu, in jih te osebe ali organi uporabljajo samo za te namene, vključno z odločitvijo o pritožbah. Za te namene se lahko informacije razkrijejo v javnih sodnih postopkih ali sodnih odločbah.

3. Brez izrecnega pisnega soglasja pristojnega organa zaprošenega pogodbenika se te informacije ne smejo uporabljati za druge namene kot so navedeni v 1. členu.

4. Informacije, ki se predložijo pogodbeniku prosilcu po tem sporazumu, se ne smejo razkriti nobeni drugi jurisdikciji.

8. člen

STROŠKI

Če se pristojna organa pogodbenikov ne dogovorita drugače, zaprošeni pogodbenik krije običajne stroške, ki nastanejo pri zagotavljanju pomoči, pogodbenik prosilec pa izredne stroške, ki nastanejo pri zagotavljanju pomoči (vključno s stroški za najem zunanjih svetovalcev v povezavi s pravdnim postopkom ali čim drugim). Pristojna organa se občasno posvetujeta v zvezi s tem členom, in še zlasti se pristojni organ zaprošenega pogodbenika vnaprej posvetuje s pristojnim organom pogodbenika prosilca, če se pričakujejo izredni stroški za zagotovitev informacij v zvezi s posamezno zahtevo.

9. člen

JEZIK

Zaprosila za pomoč in odgovori nanje se sestavljajo v angleškem ali v slovenskem in angleškem jeziku.

10. člen

POSTOPEK SKUPNEGA DOGOVORA

1. Kadar med pogodbenikoma nastanejo težave ali dvomi o izvajanju ali razlagi tega sporazuma, si pristojna organa prizadevata po najboljših močeh rešiti zadevo s skupnim dogovorom.

2. Poleg dogovorov iz prvega odstavka se lahko pristojna organa pogodbenikov dogovorita o postopkih, ki se uporabljajo po 4., 5. in 8. členu.

3. Pogodbenika se lahko po potrebi dogovorita tudi o drugih oblikah reševanja sporov.

11. člen

ZAČETEK VELJAVNOSTI

1. Pogodbenika se pisno obvestita o končnih postopkih, ki se po njunem pravu zahtevajo za začetek veljavnosti tega sporazuma. Sporazum začne veljati z dnem prejema zadnjega uradnega obvestila.

2. Z dnem začetka veljavnosti tega sporazuma se določbe tega sporazuma začnejo uporabljati:

- a) za kazenske davčne zadeve s tem dnem in
- b) za vse druge zadeve iz 1. člena s tem dnem, vendar samo za davčna obdobja, ki so se začela na ta dan ali po njem, ali če davčnega obdobja ni, za vsa davčna bremena, nastala ta dan ali po njem.

12. člen

PRENEHANJE VELJAVNOSTI

1. Ta sporazum velja, dokler ga pogodbenik ne odpove. Pogodbenik lahko odpove sporazum s pisnim obvestilom o odpovedi. Odpoved začne veljati prvi dan v mesecu po poteku šestmesečnega obdobja od dneva, ko je drugi pogodbenik prejel obvestilo o odpovedi. Vsa zaprosila, prejeta do dneva prenehanja veljavnosti, se izvajajo skladno s pogoji iz tega sporazuma.

2. Ne glede na odpoved tega sporazuma za pogodbenika še naprej velja
7. člen za vse informacije, pridobljene po tem sporazumu.

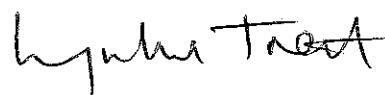
V DOKAZ NAVEDENEGA sta podpisana, ki sta bila za to pravilno
pooblaščena, podpisala sporazum.

SESTAVLJENO v dveh izvirnikih v H. Peter Portu
26. 9. 2011 v slovenskem in angleškem jeziku, pri čemer
sta besedili enako verodostojni.

Za Republiko Slovenijo:



Za Guernsey:



**Protokol
k Sporazumu med
Republiko Slovenijo in Guernseyjem
o izmenjavi informacij v zvezi z davčnimi zadevami**

Ob podpisu Sporazuma med Republiko Slovenijo in Guernseyjem o izmenjavi informacij v zvezi z davčnimi zadevami sta se podpisana sporazumela o teh določbah, ki so sestavni del sporazuma:

1. Razume se, da v 8. členu sporazuma:

- a) običajni stroški vključujejo notranje upravne stroške, manjše zunanje stroške in pavšalne izdatke, ki so nastali zaprošenemu pogodbeniku pri pregledovanju zaprosil za informacije pogodbenika prosilca in odzivanju nanje;
- b) izredni stroški vključujejo, niso pa omejeni na:
 - (i) razumne stroške, ki jih zaračunajo tretje osebe za kopiranje dokumentov za zprošenega pogodbenika,
 - (ii) razumne stroške najema strokovnjakov, tolmačev ali prevajalcev, kadar je potrebno,
 - (iii) razumne stroške pošiljanja izredno veliko dokumentov pogodbeniku prosilcu,
 - (iv) razumne stroške pravnega postopka zprošenega pogodbenika v neposredni povezavi s posameznim zaprosilom za informacije, vključno s stroški najema zunanjega zagovornika in svetovalcev, in
 - (v) razumne stroške pridobivanja izjav ali pričevanj.

2. Kadar pristojna organa pogodbenikov menita, da je to ustrezno, se lahko dogovorita, da izmenjavata strokovno znanje in izkušnje, razvijata nove inšpekcijske metode, ugotavljata katera so nova področja nezakonitega ravnanja in jih skupaj proučujeta.

V DOKAZ NAVDENEGA sta podpisana, ki sta bila za to pravilno pooblaščena, podpisala protokol.

SESTAVLJENO v dveh izvirnikih v H. Peter Portu
26. 8. 2011 v slovenskem in angleškem jeziku, pri čemer sta besedili enako verodostojni.

Za Republiko Slovenijo:

Za Guernsey:

AGREEMENT BETWEEN
THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA AND THE STATES OF GUERNSEY
FOR THE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION
RELATING TO TAX MATTERS

WHEREAS the Republic of Slovenia and the States of Guernsey ("the Contracting Parties") wish to enhance and facilitate the terms and conditions governing the exchange of information relating to taxes;

WHEREAS it is acknowledged that the States of Guernsey has the right, under the terms of the Entrustment from the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, to negotiate, conclude, perform and subject to the terms of this Agreement terminate a tax information exchange agreement with the Republic of Slovenia;

WHEREAS the States of Guernsey on the 21st February 2002 entered into a political commitment to the OECD's principles of effective exchange of information;

NOW, therefore, the Contracting Parties have agreed to conclude the following Agreement which contains obligations on the part of the Contracting Parties only:

Article 1

OBJECT AND SCOPE OF THE AGREEMENT

The Contracting Parties, through their competent authorities, shall provide assistance through exchange of information that is foreseeably relevant to the administration and enforcement of the domestic laws of the Contracting Parties concerning the taxes covered by this Agreement, including information that is foreseeably relevant to the determination, assessment, enforcement or collection of tax with respect to persons subject to such taxes, or to the investigation of tax matters or the prosecution of criminal tax matters in relation to such persons. A requested Party is not obliged to provide information which is neither held by its authorities nor in the possession of or obtainable by persons who are within its territorial jurisdiction. The rights and safeguards secured to persons by the laws or administrative practices of the requested Party remain applicable to the extent that they do not unduly prevent or delay effective exchange of information.

Article 2

TAXES COVERED

1. The taxes which are the subject of this Agreement are:

- a) in Slovenia:
 - (i) tax on income of legal persons;
 - (ii) tax on income of individuals;
 - (iii) derivative instruments gains tax;
 - (iv) tax on property;
 - (v) inheritance and gift tax;
- b) in Guernsey:
 - (i) income tax;
 - (ii) dwellings profits tax.

2. This Agreement shall apply also to any identical taxes imposed after the date of signature of the Agreement in addition to or in place of the existing taxes, or any substantially similar taxes if the Contracting Parties, through their competent authorities, so agree. Furthermore, the taxes covered may be expanded or modified by mutual agreement of the Contracting Parties in the form of an exchange of letters. The competent authority of each Contracting Party shall notify the other of substantial changes in laws which may affect the obligations of that Contracting Party pursuant to this Agreement.

Article 3

DEFINITIONS

1. In this Agreement:

- a) the term "Slovenia" means the Republic of Slovenia and, when used in a geographical sense, means the territory of Slovenia as well as those maritime areas over which Slovenia may exercise sovereign or jurisdictional rights in accordance with its internal legislation and international law;
- b) the term "Guernsey" means Guernsey, Alderney and Herm, including the territorial sea adjacent to those islands, in accordance with international law;
- c) the term "collective investment fund or scheme" means any pooled investment vehicle, irrespective of legal form. The term "public collective investment fund or scheme" means any collective investment fund or scheme provided the units, shares or other interests in the fund or scheme can be readily purchased, sold or redeemed by the public. Units, shares or other interests in the fund or scheme can be readily purchased, sold or redeemed "by the public" if the purchase, sale or redemption is not implicitly or explicitly restricted to a limited group of investors;

- d) the term "company" means any body corporate or any entity that is treated as a body corporate for tax purposes;
- e) the term "competent authority" means:
 - (i) in the case of Slovenia, the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Slovenia or its authorised representative;
 - (ii) in the case of Guernsey, the Director of Income Tax or his delegate;
- f) the term "criminal laws" means all criminal laws designated as such under domestic law, irrespective of whether such are contained in the tax laws, the criminal code or other statutes;
- g) the term "criminal tax matters" means tax matters involving intentional conduct whether before or after the entry into force of this Agreement which is liable to prosecution under the criminal laws of the requesting Party;
- h) the term "information" means any fact, statement, document or record in whatever form;
- i) the term "information gathering measures" means laws and administrative or judicial procedures enabling a requested Party to obtain and provide the information requested;
- j) the term "person" means an individual, a company or any other body of persons;
- k) the term "principal class of shares" means the class or classes of shares representing a majority of the voting power and value of the company;
- l) the term "publicly traded company" means any company whose principal class of shares is listed on a recognised stock exchange provided its listed shares can be readily purchased or sold by the public. Shares can be purchased or sold "by the public" if the purchase or sale of shares is not implicitly or explicitly restricted to a limited group of investors;
- m) the term "recognised stock exchange" means any stock exchange agreed upon by the competent authorities of the Contracting Parties;
- n) the term "requested Party" means the Contracting Party which is requested to provide or has provided information or assistance in response to a request;
- o) the term "requesting Party" means the Contracting Party submitting a request for or having received information or assistance from the requested Contracting Party;
- p) the term "tax" means any tax covered by this Agreement.

2. As regards the application of this Agreement at any time by a Contracting Party, any term not defined therein shall, unless the context otherwise requires, have the meaning that it has at that time under the laws of that Contracting Party, any meaning under the applicable tax laws of that Contracting Party prevailing over a meaning given to the term under other laws of that Contracting Party.

Article 4

EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION UPON REQUEST

1. The competent authority of the requested Party shall provide upon request by the requesting Party information for the purposes referred to in Article 1. Such information shall be exchanged without regard to whether the requested Party needs such information for its own tax purposes or the conduct being investigated would constitute a crime under the laws of the requested Party if it had occurred in the territory of the requested Party. The competent authority of the requesting Party shall only make a request for information pursuant to this Article when it is unable to obtain the requested information by other means within its own territory, except where recourse to such means would give rise to disproportionate difficulty.

2. If the information in the possession of the competent authority of the requested Party is not sufficient to enable it to comply with the request for information, the requested Party shall use all relevant information gathering measures necessary to provide the requesting Party with the information requested, notwithstanding that the requested Party may not need such information for its own tax purposes.

3. If specifically requested by the competent authority of the requesting Party, the competent authority of the requested Party shall provide information under this Article, to the extent allowable under its domestic laws, in the form of depositions of witnesses and authenticated copies of original records.

4. Each Contracting Party shall ensure that its competent authorities for the purposes specified in Article 1 of the Agreement, have the authority to obtain and provide upon request:

- a) information held by banks, other financial institutions, and any person, including nominees and trustees, acting in an agency or fiduciary capacity;
- b) (i) information regarding the legal and beneficial ownership of companies, partnerships, foundations and other persons, and within the constraints of Article 2 any other person in an ownership chain, including in the case of collective investment funds or schemes, information on shares, units and other interests;
 - (ii) in the case of trusts, information on settlors, trustees, protectors and beneficiaries; and
 - (iii) in the case of foundations, information on founders, members of the foundation council and beneficiaries.

5. This Agreement does not create an obligation on the Contracting Parties to obtain or provide ownership information with respect to publicly traded companies or public collective investment funds or schemes unless such information can be obtained without giving rise to disproportionate difficulties.

6. Any request for information shall be formulated with the greatest detail possible and shall specify in writing:

- a) the identity of the person under examination or investigation;
- b) the period for which the information is requested;
- c) the nature of the information requested and the form in which the requesting Party would prefer to receive it;
- d) the tax purpose for which the information is sought;
- e) the reasons for believing that the information requested is foreseeably relevant to tax administration and enforcement of the requesting Party, with respect to the person identified in subparagraph a) of this paragraph;
- f) the grounds for believing that the information requested is present in the requested Party or is in the possession of or obtainable by a person within the jurisdiction of the requested Party;
- g) to the extent known, the name and address of any person believed to be in possession of or able to obtain the requested information;
- h) a statement that the request is in conformity with the laws and administrative practices of the requesting Party, that if the requested information was within the jurisdiction of the requesting Party then the competent authority of the requesting Party would be able to obtain the information under the laws of the requesting Party or in the normal course of administrative practice and that it is in conformity with this Agreement;
- i) a statement that the requesting Party has pursued all means available in its own territory to obtain the information, except those that would give rise to disproportionate difficulties.

7. The competent authority of the requested Party shall forward the requested information as promptly as possible to the requesting Party. To ensure a prompt response, the competent authority of the requested Party shall:

- a) confirm receipt of a request in writing to the competent authority of the requesting Party and shall notify the competent authority of the requesting Party of deficiencies in the request, if any, within 60 days of the receipt of the request;
- b) if the competent authority of the requested Party has been unable to obtain and provide the information within 90 days of receipt of the request, including if it encounters obstacles in furnishing the information or it refuses to furnish the information, it shall immediately inform the requesting Party, explaining the reason for its inability, the nature of the obstacles or the reasons for its refusal.

Article 5

TAX EXAMINATIONS ABROAD

1. With reasonable notice, given in advance, the requesting Party may request that the requested Party allow representatives of the competent authority of the requesting Party to enter the territory of the requested Party, to the extent permitted under its domestic laws, to interview individuals and examine records with the prior written consent of the individuals or other persons concerned. The competent authority of the requesting Party shall notify the competent authority of the requested Party of the time and place of the intended meeting with the individuals concerned.

2. At the request of the competent authority of the requesting Party, the competent authority of the requested Party may permit representatives of the competent authority of the requesting Party to attend a tax examination in the territory of the requested Party.

3. If the request referred to in paragraph 2 is granted, the competent authority of the requested Party conducting the examination shall, as soon as possible, notify the competent authority of the requesting Party of the time and place of the examination, the authority or official authorised to carry out the examination and the procedures and conditions required by the requested Party for the conduct of the examination. All decisions regarding the conduct of the examination shall be made by the requested Party conducting the examination.

4. For the purposes of this Article, the term "domestic laws" refers to laws or instruments governing entry into, or exit from, the territories of the Contracting Parties.

Article 6

POSSIBILITY OF DECLINING A REQUEST

1. The competent authority of the requested Party may decline to assist:
 - a) where the request is not made in conformity with this Agreement;
 - b) where the requesting Party has not pursued all means available in its own territory to obtain the information, except where recourse to such means would give rise to disproportionate difficulty; or
 - c) where the disclosure of the information requested would be contrary to public policy.
2. This Agreement shall not impose upon a requested Party any obligation to provide items subject to legal privilege, or any trade, business, industrial, commercial or professional secret or trade process, provided that information described in Article 4, paragraph 4, shall not by reason of that fact alone be treated as such a secret or trade process.
3. A request for information shall not be refused on the ground that the tax claim giving rise to the request is disputed.
4. The requested Party shall not be required to obtain and provide information which if the requested information was within the jurisdiction of the requesting Party the competent authority of the requesting Party would not be able to obtain under its laws or in the normal course of administrative practice.
5. The requested Party may decline a request for information if the information is requested by the requesting Party to administer or enforce a provision of the tax law of the requesting Party, or any requirement connected therewith, which discriminates against a citizen of the requested Party as compared with a citizen of the requesting Party in the same circumstances.

Article 7

CONFIDENTIALITY

1. All information provided and received by the competent authorities of the Contracting Parties shall be kept confidential.
2. Such information shall be disclosed only to persons or authorities (including courts and administrative bodies) concerned with the purposes specified in Article 1, and used by such persons or authorities only for such purposes, including the determination of any appeal. For these purposes, information may be disclosed in public court proceedings or in judicial decisions.

3. Such information may not be used for any purpose other than for the purposes stated in Article 1 without the express written consent of the competent authority of the requested Party.

4. Information provided to a requesting Party under this Agreement may not be disclosed to any other jurisdiction.

Article 8

COSTS

Unless the competent authorities of the Contracting Parties otherwise agree, ordinary costs incurred in providing assistance shall be borne by the requested Party, and extraordinary costs incurred in providing assistance (including costs of engaging external advisors in connection with litigation or otherwise) shall be borne by the requesting Party. The respective competent authorities shall consult from time to time with regard to this Article, and in particular the competent authority of the requested Party shall consult with the competent authority of the requesting Party in advance if the costs of providing information with respect to a specific request are expected to be extraordinary.

Article 9

LANGUAGE

Requests for assistance and responses thereto shall be drawn up in English, or in Slovenian and English.

Article 10

MUTUAL AGREEMENT PROCEDURE

1. Where difficulties or doubts arise between the Contracting Parties regarding the implementation or interpretation of this Agreement, the respective competent authorities shall use their best efforts to resolve the matter by mutual agreement.

2. In addition to the agreements referred to in paragraph 1, the competent authorities of the Contracting Parties may mutually agree on the procedures to be used under Articles 4, 5 and 8.

3. The Contracting Parties may also agree on other forms of dispute resolution should this become necessary.

Article 11

ENTRY INTO FORCE

1. The Contracting Parties shall notify each other in writing that the procedures required by their law for the entry into force of this Agreement have been completed. This Agreement shall enter into force on the date of receipt of the last notification.

2. Upon the date of entry into force, the provisions of this Agreement shall have effect:

- a) for criminal tax matters on that date; and
- b) for all other matters covered in Article 1 on that date, but only in respect of taxable periods beginning on or after that date or, where there is no taxable period, all charges to tax arising on or after that date.

Article 12

TERMINATION

1. This Agreement shall remain in force until terminated by a Contracting Party. Either Contracting Party may terminate the Agreement by giving written notice of termination. Such termination shall become effective on the first day of the month following the expiration of a period of six months after the date of receipt of notice of termination by the other Contracting Party. All requests received up to the effective date of termination will be dealt with in accordance with the terms of this Agreement.

2. Notwithstanding any termination of this Agreement the Contracting Parties shall remain bound by the provisions of Article 7 with respect to any information obtained under this Agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being duly authorised thereto, have signed the Agreement.

DONE in duplicate at St Peter Port this 26th day of September, 20 11, in the Slovenian and English languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the Republic of Slovenia:

For the States of Guernsey:

**Protocol
to the Agreement between
the Republic of Slovenia and the States of Guernsey
for the exchange of information relating to tax matters**

At the signing of the Agreement between the Republic of Slovenia and the States of Guernsey for the exchange of information relating to tax matters, the undersigned have agreed on the following provisions which shall form an integral part of the Agreement:

1. It is understood that for the purposes of Article 8 of the Agreement:

- a) ordinary costs include internal administration costs, any minor external costs and overhead expenses incurred by the requested Party in reviewing and responding to information requests submitted by the requesting Party;
- b) extraordinary costs include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - (i) reasonable costs charged by third parties for copying documents on behalf of the requested Party;
 - (ii) reasonable costs of engaging experts, interpreters, or translators when necessary;
 - (iii) reasonable costs of conveying an extraordinary amount of documents to the requesting Party;
 - (iv) reasonable litigation costs of the requested Party in direct relation to a specific request for information, including costs of engaging external counsel and advisers; and
 - (v) reasonable costs of obtaining depositions or testimony.

2. If both competent authorities of the Contracting Parties consider it appropriate to do so they may agree to exchange technical know-how, develop new audit techniques, identify new areas of non-compliance, and jointly study non-compliance areas.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being duly authorised thereto, have signed the Protocol.

DONE in duplicate at St Peter Port this 26th day of September 2011, in the Slovenian and English languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the Republic of Slovenia:

For the States of Guernsey: